

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Frank Kenneth Crundwell et al.

Application No.: 10/528,381

Confirmation No.: 6871

Filed: June 1, 2005

Art Unit: 1657

For: INTRODUCTION OF MICROORGANISMS IN  
BIO-ASSISTED HEAP LEACHING  
OPERATIONS

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Examiner: L. J. Schuberg

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed January 9, 2008, please consider the following remarks and arguments.

**The Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.